

# PLAYERS TO BE GIVEN HEARING BY COMMISSION

Pres. Fultz Expected to be in Cincinnati Jan. 5 and Explain the Demands Made by Ball Fraternity.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 26.—Chairman Hermann received word Thursday that a committee of members of the Baseball Players Fraternity will be in attendance here at the annual meeting of the National Commission which opens on Jan. 5. The information came from Dave Fultz, president of the Fraternity, who did not say whether he will be here or not in person, but agreed that a committee from the Fraternity would be on hand. Doubtless Fultz will be here himself, and the members of the commission hope that he will be, but they were anxious to have a number of ball players present also, in order that the athletes themselves may hear the replies which are to be given in their requests for changes to the agreement. Several of the requests will be granted without a murmur, as they are eminently reasonable and fair for all concerned. But a number of them are so absurd that the commission wishes the players to be on hand to hear the reasons why they are not granted in order that they may not be persuaded that they are being discriminated against.

Herrmann will strongly advocate an open meeting for the purpose of discussing the players' demands, so that all players, fans and scribes may hear the arguments and understand that every request on the list is being fairly handled. Herrmann will urge Presidents Tener and Johnson to agree to an open session for the purpose of hearing the players' demands, so that all players, fans and scribes may hear the arguments and understand that every request on the list is being fairly handled.

One of the players' requests in which they seem to have a good deal of right on their side is that pertaining to waivers. The purpose of the waiver rule is to prevent any major league club from sending a good man back to the minors when other major league clubs want his services and are willing to assume his salary. The players contend, and with some show of justice, that this rule is not always fairly administered.

Waivers Often Withdrawn. They assert that every player on whom waivers are asked should go through both big leagues, instead of only the league to which he belongs as is now the case with several classes of athletes. In this contention they are absolutely right as a man who is not wanted in the National league may be able to find a berth in the American league and vice versa. He should have a chance to stick in the big show as long as any one of the 16 major clubs is willing to keep him.

Another contention is that the present system of withdrawing waivers should not be allowed, but that when waivers are once asked on a player they should be binding in case any other club claims him. There is a lot of merit in this contention also, though they are arguments on both sides. The players truthfully assert that many a club anxious to send a player back to the minors in order to make a deal with some minor league club tries to secure waivers as a favor, though one or more clubs would be glad to claim the player and keep him in the big show. Clubs ask for waivers time after time on the same man, whom they do not want themselves, but are anxious to send to the minors. The announcement did not come as a surprise to those on the inside of the A. B. C.'s politics, as it is well known that both men were ready to drop the cares of office last year, but did not wish to withdraw then on account of criticism then going the rounds.

With no clouds on the horizon this year, the two officers are in a position to quit at the height of their fame, according to statements by a well-posted man in the game last night.

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# TAKING ONE LAST LOOK BACK AT CHRISTMAS—By Goldberg.



## HENDRICKS OWES MUCH TO KNOCKS

Was Forced Out of Central League But Lands Higher Pennants in Four Years.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 26.—Practically driven from a class B league by a handful of crabbing fans into a part ownership and the managerial berth of the Indianapolis club in the American association is the record of Jack Hendricks' baseball activities in the last five years. Hendricks when he piloted the local club for Mr. Varnell managed in some manner or other to incur the dislike of the fans to such a degree that Mr. Varnell was forced to supplant him with another. The Billiken, owner, however, recognized Hendricks' worth and, with the aid of then-President Frank B. Carson, of the Central league, induced James McGill to give Hendricks the job of managing his Denver club. Jack never had much experience handling baseball teams and had had practically no major league experience on which to hang a pretension of knowing more baseball than class A players. He had, however, studied the game from every angle and had supplemented his playing experience with some sound ideas on the whys and wherefores of baseball play.

In four years at Denver he won three pennants and finished once in second place. He was touted at one time as a major league possibility, but recognizing the fact that handling major league prima donnas and directing class AA players are two entirely different things, Hendricks clung close to McGill and Denver, and now has come his reward. He, with McGill closed a deal by which the two come into the ownership of the Indianapolis club. The consideration of \$175,000 carries with it control of the Springfield (Central league) club. Thus Hendricks comes back into the league that unjust criticism drove him out of, but he comes back not as player or manager, but as owner.

The new Indianapolis club owners will spend \$25,000 building up their club, as they figure Indianapolis to be one of the best class AA baseball cities in the country.

## TAKES PITCHING LESSONS

J. D.'s Grandson Anxious to Learn Art of Curving.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—In the hope of playing on the Princeton baseball team several years hence, Fowler McCormick, grandson of John D. Rockefeller and son of Harold F. McCormick of this city, is studying the art of throwing curves during his Christmas vacation. Mordecai Brown, major league baseball pitcher, is his instructor.

Young McCormick attends school at Groton, Mass., and expects to enter Princeton. He began his training last winter and according to Brown is making fast strides mastering curves.

## WILL TRAIN AT FORT WAYNE

OTTAWA, Ontario, Dec. 26.—Ottawa baseball club, twice winner of the Canadian league pennant expects to train at Fort Wayne, Ind., next spring. The players will report May 7.

## What's the Matter With Southpaw George Wiltse for That Job of First Basing with Giants Next Year?

Will Fred Merkle play first for the Giants next year?

Any number of fans are asking themselves this question; Merkle is with the world-tourers in Asia; so is McGraw, but the effort of the New York business manager to trade Merkle, Snodgrass and an armful of bats for Ed Konechny, at the National league's annual meeting, indicates that McGraw wants to rid himself of the big fellow whose errors of omission have made him a marked man.

There appears to be little reason why McGraw should go outside his own team for a flashy first baseman. The work of George Wiltse during the last post-mortem series was so high class that it was startling. It was old "Hooks" wonderful fielding that gave the Giants the only game they won from the slashing, run-away Mackmen.

The idea that Wiltse cannot hit well enough for a first baseman need not last very long. Wiltse hit .326 in 1912, and, although this may have been a flash, it shows he is capable and if he played every day and had a chance to get his "eye upon the ball" Wiltse might surprise some of the home folks in Syracuse.

Wiltse is about through as a pitcher. He has been with the team since 1904, when he was purchased from the Troy team of the New York State league. Control has always been his forte. His best season was the never-to-be-forgotten year of 1908, when he and Mathewson pitched the Giants into a pennant, only to be Merkle'd out of it.

When Wiltse went to the Giants he was the cleverest fielding pitcher in the N. Y. S. L. and has always ranked high as a fielder in the National. He is one of the pitchers at whom opponents never bunt the ball, because he never falls over his feet in getting the ball.

With Troy in 1903 Wiltse participated in 70 games, hitting .260, and in many games he played right field and first base, showing exceptional ability in both positions. As an outfielder Wiltse became a terror by winning out many a runner who was inclined to "take it easy" going to the bag after the ball escaped the infield.

On first "Hooks" performed spectacularly and it was no surprise to the residents of Troy to read of his sensational fielding in the world's series. In fact, it will not surprise the Trojans if they read the Giants' lineup next get-away day and saw the name of George Wiltse in the line formerly occupied by Fred Merkle.

## HINKEY IS APPOINTED HEAD COACH AT YALE

New Man Succeeds Howard Jones on Football Field—Business Calls Old Leader.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 26.—Frank Hinkey, who has been appointed head coach of the Yale football team, succeeds Howard Jones, who during the last season began his work as Yale's first salaried football coach under a contract. Jones, it is understood felt obliged to sever his contract in order to accept a lucrative business proposition.

Hinkey was graduated from Yale in 1895. He played end rush and Walter Camp and other football experts regard him as one of the best ends that ever wore the blue, rivaling even such latter day stars at Yale as Shevlin, Kirkpatrick and Bonebrake.

For the first time in many years, Hinkey assisted in the coaching at Yale field last fall, so he is conversant with conditions here. He is known to be an advocate of the open style of play and is a firm believer in the forward pass.

It is therefore probable that Yale will show an attack next fall that will almost revolutionize the style of play in vogue here for several seasons past.

## A THRILLING STORY PICTURE

It's going to be worth a trip down town today to see "The Runaway Freight" at the American theater. One of the thrilling happenings is a daredevil leap through space to the top of a runaway freight train.—Adv.

## LEVINSKY WINS

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Batting Levinsky, light-heavyweight of this city, defeated Jack Driscoll of Brooklyn in a ten round bout in the latter city Thursday afternoon. Levinsky weighed 163 pounds, Driscoll 158.



GEORGE WILTSE JOINED THE GIANTS IN 1904, BUT NOT UNTIL 1913 DID MCGRAW DISCOVER HIM TO BE ONE OF THE BEST-FIELDING FIRST BASEMEN IN THE LEAGUE.

## TINKER IS WORTH \$50,000, SAYS CHANCE

Well Known Player Asserts Some National Stars Often Overstep Rules of Games.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 26.—Wallace F. Johnson, who was a member of the American tennis team which won the Davis cup competition in England last summer, in discussing the changes in the tennis rules proposed by the English authorities, declared last night that he believes the rules regarding service and foot faults should be rigidly enforced. He had been taught, he said, to keep both feet on or back of the service line until the ball is struck.

"A man who adheres closely to the back court game rarely has a foot fault called," said Johnson. "There are, however, many men of national reputation who would suffer if the rules already on the statute books were rigidly enforced. Rigid rules will in no way embarrass the man who has a faultless service."

## KILLED BY MOTHER

SOUTH BORO, Mass., Dec. 26.—Alice, the 11-year-old daughter of C. W. Whitney, a Boston publisher, was accidentally shot and killed by her mother Wednesday.

Whitney was extracting a shell from the magazine of a rifle, when the weapon was discharged, the bullet entering the child's heart.

## TRY NEWS-TIMES WANT ADS

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## GROUND BEING PUT IN SHAPE

Infield at Notre Dame is Getting Treatment of River Bottom Clay—Tracks Are to be Made Ready for Runners.

Athletic Director Jesse Harper is taking advantage of the unusually pleasant winter to get the baseball diamonds and the indoor and outdoor tracks in shape for the coming campaign of baseball games and athletic meets. In baseball, as well as in track Harper will look to the interhall men as varsity possibilities. With this in mind he is at present engaged in giving the infield of the interhall and varsity diamonds a treatment of river bottom clay.

These diamonds have a grass infield as well kept as any in league ball parks and the clay will be used to fill in the skinned sections between the bases. The clay will tend to smooth the skinned part of the diamond and will help infielders to gather in ground balls. The sod is being carefully treated and in the spring Notre Dame's baseball men will have three perfect diamonds on which to practice.

The outdoor track was torn up last fall and Notre Dame will have this spring a fast quarter mile track banked all the way around with a curbing of concrete. During the vacation Harper is also having the indoor track thoroughly overhauled. The two baskets that are used in basketball games will be moved inside the running track so that the track and basketball practice will be carried on in earnest after the holidays for Notre Dame will have stiff schedules in both these sports.

## UNIQUE DISTINCTION IS BILL ESSICK'S

Pres. "Vinegar Bill" Essick, of the Grand Rapids club in the Central league, claims distinction as the only club owner ever released by his own manager.

Essick and Ed Smith are joint owners of the Grand Rapids franchise, Essick being the president and Smith the manager. Both men are pitchers. Last summer Essick was slow rounding into condition and, as it was necessary to keep within the player and salary limit, Manager Smith handed Pres. Essick his release as a hurler and signed another man to pitch.

The move was a good one, as Grand Rapids went out and won the Central league flag.

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# CRITICS TO HAVE GOOD CHANCE TO PICK CHAMPION

Tilts in Which Notre Dame and Michigan Are to Figure Will Enable Men to Draw Better Comparisons.

The national intercollegiate football title will not be in such a muddle in 1914, for next year the east and west will meet in many big battles. This fall Harvard was placed at the top of the heap although the Crimson was not obliged to risk its title in a game with a western college.

Last fall Harvard met only eastern teams and clearly proved her supremacy over anything east of the Alleghenies. Next year, however, the Crimson will stack up against Michigan and in this game critics will have a good chance to get the horror story on the national title. In addition to this big tilt there are other intercollegiate battles. Michigan is to meet Harvard, Cornell, Pennsylvania, and Cornell, while Notre Dame has closed a game with Syracuse for Thanksgiving day and from New York come rumors of a Notre Dame-Yale game. The Syracuse contests will furnish comparisons for the biggest contenders for championship honors. With Syracuse playing Michigan, Princeton and Notre Dame, with Michigan playing Harvard, Cornell, Pennsylvania, and Syracuse, and with Notre Dame playing Syracuse and probable Yale, critics could not desire a better combination.

By sifting the dope from the scores of all these games it will be seen that Harvard or Yale will not be handed the national championship on a silver platter. The big eastern schools will have to fight for every honor they gain. Should Harvard tie with Michigan and Notre Dame with Yale in the event of a game between the two schools, critics will still have a chance to dope out the real champion by referring to the other games.

The west has a most excellent chance for the kingship in American football next year. The westerners under the leadership of Notre Dame have proved that the forward pass is the one best bet of modern football. Coach Haughton of Harvard and Tad Jones of Yale have scoffed at the efficiency of the forward pass in a practical contest. Notre Dame proved this year that these men are quite mistaken. In the West Point game with the score 14 to 13 at the end of the third quarter the Hoosiers cut loose in the final period and with a succession of dazzling forward passes ran up 21 points in twelve minutes. Should Yale and Notre Dame get together in 1914 there will be a clash between the wide open game of Coach Harper and the conservative old play of the Yale coaches. Football experts who have closely followed the possibilities of forward pass and its success this year are banking on the west to cop highest honors next fall.

Whatever the outcome in 1914, it is certain that a real champion will be chosen. The great number of intercollegiate games and the many leading teams involved in the playing of them will, without a doubt, result in the certain triumph of one eleven. The scrap will be of keen interest to sporting enthusiasts for it will be the first time that the west has really had a good crack at the title.

## LIKES NEW PITCHER

Cubs' President Speaks Highly of Hurter Uttercha.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 26.—"I have been visiting with my new pitcher, Harvey Uttercha, the Cincinnati high school boy," said Pres. Charles W. Murphy of the Chicago Cubs, who has completed a round of business engagements in this city. "He seems to be a fine youngster with a good head and brilliant possibilities. Naturally the boy and his friends are wondering if he will get a fair show in the spring or be railroaded to the minors with hardly an opportunity to show the goods. They needn't worry. The best proof of my anxiety to secure the young man is the amount of trouble and red tape I had to go through in order to land him. He seems to be well worth the trouble, and I will give him a thorough tryout."

## REASONABLE PRICES FOR EXPERT OPTICAL SERVICE.